

CAPITAL SHAKEN BY ANTI-RUM CHALLENGE

To-Night's Weather—FAIR; COLDER.

To-Morrow's Weather—FAIR.

THE EVENING
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Club Women Protest Return of Arbuckle Films

ASKS CONFERENCE OF BIG POWERS TO DISCUSS FINANCES

All Economic Questions Covered by Borah Amendment.

NO GERMAN REQUEST.

Chamber of Commerce Chief Says Suggestion Is Wholly American.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (Associated Press).—A conference of the world powers to consider economic questions, to be called by President Harding, for discussion of possible agreements to establish more stable financial and business conditions and to bring about a reduction in land and sea armaments was proposed by Senator Borah, Republican, Idaho, in an amendment offered to-day to the pending Naval Appropriation Bill.

German overtures through informal channels for American intervention to obtain a revision of German reparations schedules, reported in London despatches, throws the first definite light on the method by which American influence is being drawn into a new attempt at final adjustment of the vexing reparations problem.

American observers have reported that without support of the industrialists the Cuno Government could not stand and that a Socialist Ministry must replace it, probably to be followed by political upheavals. If the Cuno Government is supporting the informal efforts toward a new agreement with France on reparations, therefore, the view is taken in some quarters here that it means recognition in Germany that she must pay the cost of the war as far as her capacity will permit and is prepared to do so.

DENIES GERMANY ASKED U. S. TO FIX REPARATION BASIS

U. S. Chamber of Commerce Head Says No Such Request Has Come From There.

Julius H. Barnes, President of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, in a statement to-day, credits entirely to American initiative the movement looking to a survey of economic conditions in Germany to serve as the basis for a new reparations treaty.

He says it is a mistake to attribute the suggestion to German Chancellor Cuno and pledges his organization to the support of any action the United States Government is willing to take.

"This report probably originates," he says, in the recognition by all countries that a definite settlement of the reparations problem would be a considerable gain on the road to world recovery. It is natural that business organizations of the world should look for aid in determining reparations, to America, which refused at the outset to share in reparations, and therefore has no self-interest in the question.

"It is manifest that our American Administration is properly exploring every avenue of hopeful progress in reaching a determination, in accord with France and the other Allies, but it is certainly a mistake to say that such efforts have been suggested by Chancellor Cuno or from any German authority. The action of the American Government is certainly not based on German initiative, but is inspired undoubtedly by the belief that the peace of the world and the recovery of the Allies could be greatly facilitated by a settlement of the reparations question."

BRAZIL AVIATORS REACH NATAL IN NEW FLIGHT

Latest Jump Brings Them 250 Miles Nearer Rio.

NATAL, Brazil, Dec. 21 (Associated Press).—The airplane Sempino Correia, in which Lieut. Walter Hinton and his companions are attempting a flight from New York to Rio Janeiro, under the auspices of The New York World, arrived here at 12:50 P. M. from Aracaty, which they left at 7:30 this morning. The distance is 250 miles.

CHIEF JUSTICE TAFT TAKEN FROM HOSPITAL FOLLOWING OPERATION

Former President Recovering After Removal of Gall Stones—Secrecy Surrounds Illness.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Chief Justice Taft of the United States Supreme Court is recuperating at his home here to-day from a serious operation several days ago. Mr. Taft was removed to his home yesterday from Garfield Hospital, physicians stated. The operation was for gallstones, it was said. Secrecy surrounded his illness.

POKER SWINDLE STARTS ROUND-UP OF GAMBLERS HERE

Arrests Uncover Card Scandal Involving Several Hundred Thousand Dollars.

The persistent boast of the present City Administration that there was no such thing as an established gambling house in Greater New York was met to-day by charges of Charles F. Meyer of White Plains against Mark Reardon of No. 150 West 58th Street, and Richard Menden of No. 215 West 92d Street, who were arraigned before Magistrate Hattin in the West Side Court on warrants for them as common gamblers.

The two were arrested at their homes last night by Detectives Furlo and Lyons of Inspector Lahey's staff. According to the detectives Reardon lived on the top story of the 58th Street house and maintained the lower two floors as "club rooms."

Reardon, for whom his son Mark Reardon Jr. and Leon Levy appeared, was held in \$500 bail to appear before Magistrate Hattin in Essex Market Court, Dec. 29. Menden was held in \$1,000 bail for a hearing to-morrow.

In his complaint Mr. Meyer said he had lost \$50,000 to Reardon and Menden in two and a half years playing poker. He said he first knew Menden as a member of the Manhattan Club in which Honest John Kelly was influential at No. 156 West 44th Street—the premises which were raided last night by Inspector Troy and his men as "The Active Republican Club,"—and between January and November, 1920, lost \$13,722 to Menden in two and a half years playing poker. He said Meyer said he seldom won and his largest loss at one time in the Reardon home was \$500. He always paid his losses with checks on the Harriman National Bank made out to cash or to Menden & Co. These checks were offered as exhibits in the case.

Meyer made his complaint to Police Commissioner Enright yesterday afternoon. The Commissioner was shocked to learn of what seemed like a brazen defiance of the law and called in Chief Inspector Lahey, and the detectives were sent to court with Mr. Meyer to get the warrants. Meyer is also understood to have told the police officials that the Active

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The Largest Clearing House for Business Propositions

A storehouse of valuable information is daily presented to business men through "The World's" advertisements.

Number of "Business Opportunities" NOVEMBER, 1922:

THE WORLD.....10,854 ads.
The Times.....3,063 ads.
The American.....1,278 ads.
The Herald.....319 ads.
The Tribune.....54 ads.

WORLD over all combined 5,340 ads.

70% of all the "Business Opportunities" are printed in The World.

WIDOW OF BRUNEN, FREED BY JURY, TO START TEA ROOM

Mohr, Convicted of Murder, Insists He Is Innocent as Sister.

PLANS ANOTHER TRIAL.

Glad to Make Sacrifice if One Had to Be Made.

(From a Staff Correspondent of The Evening World.)

MOUNT HOLLY, N. J., Dec. 21.—The verdict which acquitted Mrs. Doris Brunen of the murder of "Honest John," the carnival man, and in its second breath found her brother, Harry C. Mohr, guilty of the crime in its maximum degree, with recommendation that he be imprisoned for life at hard labor, brought no surprise whatever to the people of Mount Holly. It was not only just what they expected, but was in complete accord with the charge of Justice Kallisch.

But it was much of a surprise to both defendants, so much, indeed, to Mrs. Brunen that she collapsed in a dead faint when her brother, manacled to Constable Jacobs, his close companion during the eight trial days, started from the courtroom for his cell.

"As long as some one has to make the sacrifice I am glad it is me and not my sister," declared Mohr in his cell to-day. "I am just as innocent as my sister. I still believe I have a chance and I have not relinquished my faith in God. This is a terrific blow, but I know the whole case was nothing but a crooked deal to get me. I don't understand how a jury could convict me after Justice Kallisch's charge, in which he pointed out the danger of returning a verdict of guilty on evidence given by Powell, a self-confessed murderer.

"I proved where I was on the night of the tragedy. I never wanted Brunen killed. I saved his life twice. Once during an argument with a man I stepped between them just as the other man had drawn a revolver. Another time, one of the Indians in Brunen's circus was going to stab him when I grabbed his wrist, and took a deep breath myself.

"I hope my lawyer will be able to get me a new trial. I have some new evidence to prove my alibi and I believe that I would be acquitted."

Throughout the early hours of the trial Harry Mohr conducted himself as if he were absolutely sure of acquittal. He was even a bit swaggering in his walk as he came in and went out. Twice he indulged in angry outbursts toward Hazen Brunen, his sister's stepdaughter.

But he quieted down perceptibly on the last day of court. He was obviously wondering what his fate was to be when the prosecution was less than half way through its summation. He tried to appear only mildly interested, keeping his eyes anywhere save on

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ARREST OF AUTOISTS WITHOUT 1923 PLATES BY JANUARY 1 ASKED

Motorists Slow in Getting Licenses and Tax Commission Requests Police and Sheriffs to Act.

ALBANY, Dec. 21.—A request to apprehend all persons who try to operate a motor vehicle in New York State on or after Jan. 1 without the 1923 registration plates was sent by the State Tax Commission to-day to all Sheriffs and police officials in the State.

At the same time it was stated at the office of the Motor Vehicle Bureau of the commission that automobile owners in the State have been exceedingly slow in securing the new plates.

TELLS JURY HER STORY OF HOW HUSBAND WAS SHOT AT L. I. PARTY



MRS. OSCAR A. HIRSH
By KETTER VIEW CO.

MRS. HIRSH DENIES ALL KNOWLEDGE OF SHOOTING HUSBAND

"Love Birds" Were "Drunk-est Persons in World," Witnesses Say.

(Special From a Staff Correspondent of The Evening World.)

MINNEOLA, L. I., Dec. 21.—Mrs. Hazel Hirsh took the witness stand in her own behalf just before the noon recess to-day and made a general denial of the charge of felonious assault for which she is on trial before County Judge Smith and a jury in the Nassau County Court House. Miss Hirsh was indicted for an alleged attempt to kill her husband, Oscar Wallie Hirsh at a party given on the lawn of the home of Miss Reine Davies at Freeport in June last. Mr. Hirsh was shot and for a time his life was despaired of.

Mrs. Hirsh, blond and very pretty, said she had only a vague recollection of any of the happenings at the party. She admitted she had consumed considerable liquor. Previous witnesses had testified that both she and her husband were very drunk.

The only thing she said she remembered was that she missed "Wallie" from the rathskeller, where they were drinking, and went outside to search for him. She said she saw him sitting on a secluded bench on the lawn, mumbling and fondling a pistol. She ran to him, she said, and there was an explosion. When she again became conscious she was in the Freeport Jail.

Everything was like a dream, the defendant testified. She did not remember "Wallie" kicking her in the face or hitting her, as previous witnesses had testified.

"When you get a few drinks in you, you are not the best natured person

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SHORTEST DAY IN YEAR IS TO-MORROW BY NOT QUITE ONE MINUTE

Winter Solstice Usually Occurs Dec. 21, but Is One Day Late This Year.

To-morrow will be the shortest day of the year. Beginning Saturday, day by day in every way the hours between sunrise and sunset will become increasingly longer and better, and the upward climb to spring and warmer weather will be on in earnest.

The winter solstice ordinarily occurs on Dec. 21, but this year it occurs to-morrow morning at 9:57 o'clock, according to Weather Forecaster Scarr. As a consequence, to-morrow will be nearly a minute shorter than to-day or Saturday. To-day the sun rose at 7:20 A. M. and will set at 4:55 P. M.; to-morrow it rises at 7:21 and sets at the same time.

CLUB WOMEN CLAIM HAYS PROMISED TO BAR FATTY WHOLLY

Say "Pardon" Reverses Position Taken at Federation Meeting at Chautauqua.

CANNOT FORGIVE HIM.

Opposition at Many Points; Clergy Say "Give Him a Chance."

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 21.—A meeting of the City Federation of Women's Clubs has been called to consider the reinstatement of Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle in motion pictures.

Mrs. Charles Slegemond, chairman of the moving picture committee of the federation, to-day declared that the organization would oppose the return of Arbuckle.

"We have been deceived by Will H. Hays," Mrs. Slegemond said. "He promised the women gathered at the National Convention of Federated Clubs, in Chautauqua last summer, that Arbuckle would not be permitted to reappear in moving pictures. He had reversed himself. The Buffalo Federation of Women's Clubs will offer vehement objection to the reappearance of Arbuckle on the public screen."

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 21.—"Complete oblivion," as far as the public is concerned, is demanded for Roscoe Arbuckle, film comedian, by the Fifth District Federation of Women's Clubs. A copy of their statement was sent to Will Hays, chief of the motion picture industry, and Jesse Lasky, head of the company which formerly distributed the Arbuckle films.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 21.—Roscoe ("Fatty") Arbuckle, comedian, was making ready to-day for his re-entry into motion pictures after Jan. 1, while members of the Los Angeles District Federation of Women's Clubs announced their opposition to his plans.

After Will H. Hays, titular head of the motion picture industry, announced here yesterday that Arbuckle might have another "chance" to make good, the Los Angeles District adopted a resolution affirming a previous one opposing his reappearance in pictures.

Mrs. J. C. Urquhart, President of the district, stated that although Arbuckle, at his third trial in San Francisco, had been acquitted of causing the death of Virginia Rappe, screen actress, the testimony "was of such a character as to bar him forever from appearing before a decent, self-respecting public."

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Dec. 21.—Pictures showing Roscoe Arbuckle

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MORE THEATRE OWNERS SURPRISED BY "PARDON"

Say Public Opinion Is Generally Opposed to Arbuckle Films.

The following self-explanatory statement was made to-day at the offices of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America in regard to the Hays' decision in allowing Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle to return to the screen:

"We, at the national headquarters of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, were much surprised to learn of the Hays' move to reinstate Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle as a motion picture actor, as the same was revealed to us in articles in the papers.

"As theatre owners, having the only direct contact with the public, we know of no new development to change the minds of the people of the Arbuckle situation.

"As the public alone constitute the judges of what should or should not appear on the screen, the American people will determine whether or not they want the Arbuckle films.

"No act of any official can make up the public mind. Telegrams coming to us indicate general opposition to the return of Arbuckle to the screen and we are now awaiting a more general expression of opinion, as the same is being obtained from the public by theatre owners in different districts."

UPSHAW'S DEMAND OFFICIALS TAKE DRY OATH SHOCKS THEM

Repeal of State's Liquor Law Urged by Additional Grand Jury

Time Wasted Trying to Convict Under Mullan-Gage Act, It Finds—Hits Big Enforcement Cost.

After consideration for a month of the countless cases of alleged violations of the State Prohibition Law, the Additional Grand Jury to-day handed up to Judge Francis X. Mancuso, sitting in General Sessions, a resolution calling for the repeal of the Mullan-Gage Enforcement Act.

In the presentment the Grand Jury stated that it was the opinion and conviction of every member of the body that the time and efforts of Grand Juries are wasted in the consideration of cases of alleged violation of the Prohibition Law and should be devoted to the consideration of matters of more practical and serious character. The results obtained under the State enforcement law are utterly incommensurate with the amount of money expended in its enforcement, they said.

"Hearing of these cases costs the county \$500 a day," said the resolution. "And only one out of every one hundred cases result in indictments. Ninety-five out of every hundred alleged violations under the State law are thrown out. There are 1,800 of these cases still waiting for the consideration of another Grand Jury, and the time and efforts of this jury will be wasted too."

The resolution went on to say the cases are properly recognizable in the Federal courts, particularly in view of the recent decision of the United States Supreme Court that cases can be prosecuted in the State and Federal courts for the same offense.

"We suggest the enactment of a law other than the Mullan-Gage Act," went on the resolution, "that would be more in sympathy with the Eighteenth Amendment."

The presentment was the result of the work of a committee of the Grand Jury comprised of William C. Cox, Milton H. Ernst and John T. Egan, assisted by Assistant District Attorney Richard Murphy. Judge Mancuso declared he would send a copy of the resolution to the Governor and others to members of the Legislature.

FLOODS WHITE WAY WITH BOGUS HOCH; 'U. S. AGENT' GONE

Water and Tea Labeled Gin and Whiskey Dispensed by Thousands of Cases.

"J. Lynch" has cleaned up by this time and is probably far, far away, but inquiries continue to pour into the Custom House about Mr. Lynch, who, representing himself as a customs inspector attached to the Searching Squad, has been selling water and tea labelled "gin" and "Scotch" in the White Light district in wholesale quantities.

People began to call up and write in about him a week ago—restaurant and saloonkeepers, tailors, dressmakers, milliners, ticket speculators, lawyers, hotel clerks and house detectives, theatrical agents, actors, song-writers, box office men, cab starters, doormen—all sorts and conditions of people complaining that they had been stung by Mr. Lynch.

The complaints were referred to Inspector Albert O. Hokenstein, in charge of the Searching Squad, who called on some of the complainants. He found their stories identical in every instance.

It would appear that "J. Lynch" early in December, representing himself as a customs inspector and showing forged credentials, did set to work to peddle cases of real gin and real Scotch whiskey at prices below the bootleg average. These customers gladly furnished him with the names of friends and wrote letters recommending his goods.

From the number of victims who have reported it seems likely that there were a number of "J. Lynches" working at once and in the pursuance of a widespread conspiracy. It would not be water to water a few cases of alleged gin and cook up tea for a few cases of alleged whiskey. J. Lynch sold hundreds, perhaps thousands, of cases and made deliveries in every instance in the early part of his operations. Recently no deliveries were made, the bogus stock probably having been exhausted.

Customs officials are pretty sore about the J. Lynch affair, not only because a swindler used the customs service as a cloak for his activities but because so many people in the wise part of the city as readily assumed that a customs inspector could be crooked.

With 500 Bootleggers at Capital, Drys Plan to Smoke Out Secret Drinkers.

WANT ALL DRY IN FACT.

Believe Many Who Voted for Prohibition Have Hidden Stock of Hooch.

By David Lawrence.
(Special Correspondent of The Evening World.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (Copyright).—Representative Upshaw's speech calling upon all officials of the United States Government, as well as the Governors of the several States of the Union, to take the dry oath themselves has tended to bring out into the open one of the most perplexing phases of the entire Prohibition question.

For it is an open secret that although Prohibition is the law of the land and the National Capital is the centre of law enforcement and respect for the statutes, the use of liquors in private parties attended by officials, high and low, is not frowned upon. There is a clash between public duty and private sentiment.

Mr. Upshaw of Georgia is the first to challenge that attitude of officials which seeks to impose the Prohibition Law in the abstract sense while countenancing the use of liquor privately. No intoxicants are served on the tables of high officials in any public functions but, as the Washington Post, an Administration newspaper, said not long ago, "a census shows there are about 500 bootleggers in the District of Columbia and now if we could only have a census of their private customers," the fact of considerable drinking of intoxicants could not be denied.

But the law doesn't prohibit drinking. Officials who use liquors can very well say there is no restriction in the Constitution or the statutes against the use of liquors or even their purchase but simply their manufacture and sale. The question raised by Mr. Upshaw of Georgia is that officials should, however, set an example and refuse to buy any liquors. So far as stopping the bootlegging trade, the cutting off of the National Capital's supply of illicitly sold liquors would be a mere trifle in the entire bootlegging trade of the country.

The theory of Mr. Upshaw and the other drys who do not like to see Government officials drinking at all in that they will be better able to enforce the law if they privately believe in it. There wets who think just the opposite, namely, that if Government officials found themselves absolutely cut off from all liquor supply they would better understand the public sentiment of those localities where the liquor laws are openly flouted by state officials as well as the most prominent citizens of the community.

William Jennings Bryan is one of the few who have been in official life not only to champion the dry cause publicly but to practice what he preached. He used to keep a book on hand so that any of his friends could sign the dry pledge whenever the impulse moved them. It has frequently been charged that of the many so-called drys in the House and Senate who voted for the Volstead act as well as the Eighteenth Amendment many have kept a private supply of liquor since in their homes or in their offices.

One local newspaper not so long ago won a good deal of ill-will on Capitol Hill by publishing photographs of empty liquor bottles carried away from congressional buildings by the garbage man from time to time. There are of course hundreds of employees in the Capitol other than those who have a vote and there is no certainty that any or all the bottles came from the legislators themselves.

But the presumption of Mr. Upshaw that officials are not doing all they might themselves to discourage bootlegging in the District of Colum-